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ABSTRACT

Produced for primary and intermediate grades, this student booklet provides a study of where water comes from, how we get clean water, and the operations of a water treatment plant. Photographs, a few line drawings, a minimum of narrative, and a glossary of terms make up its content. A related document is the teacher's guide, SE 016 490. This work was prepared under an ESEA Title III contract for the Interdisciplinary Environmental Education K-12 project. (BL)

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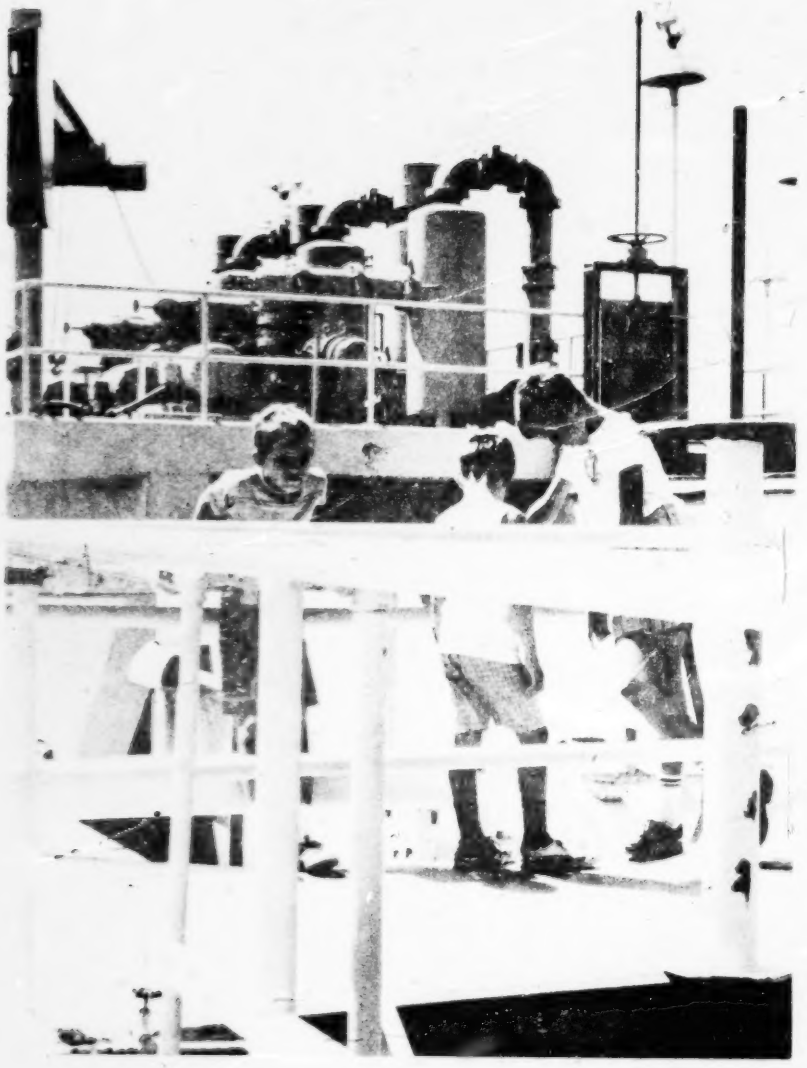

A TRIP TO THE WATER PLA

by Marilyn Lash

SE 016 488

Interdisciplinary Environmental Education

ESEA Title III Project, Broward County, Florida

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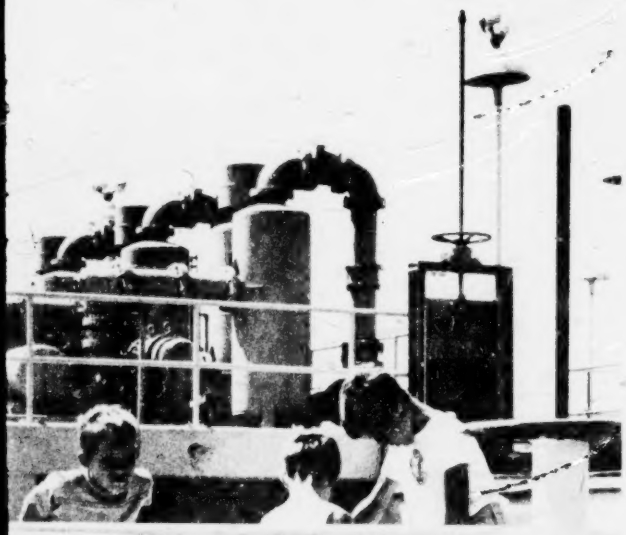

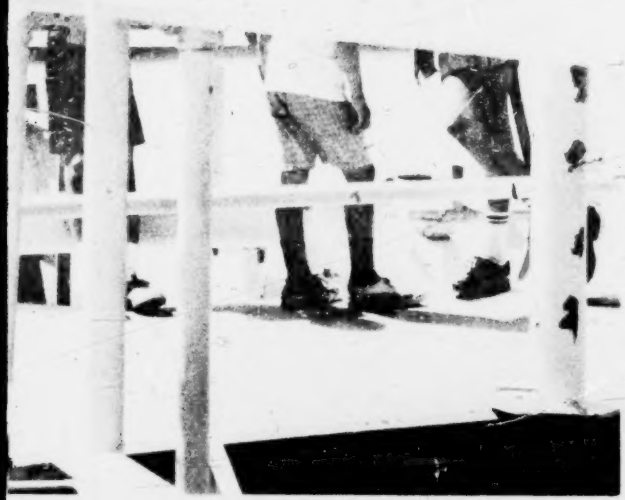

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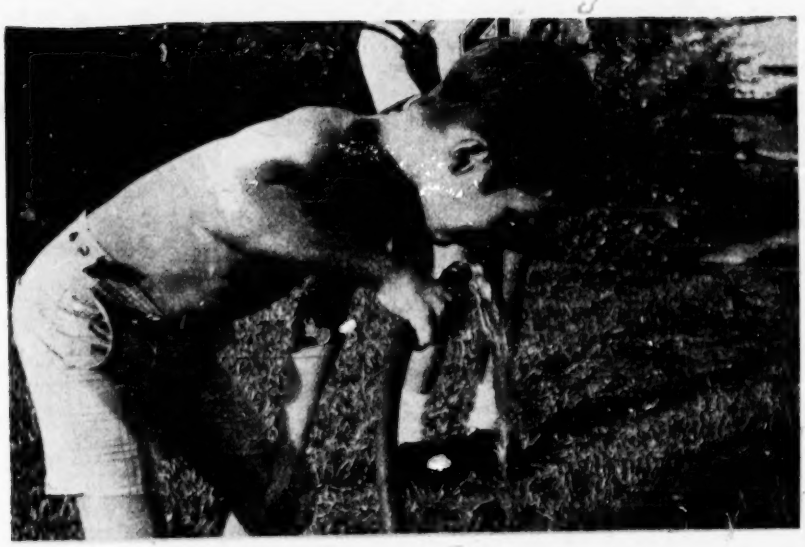
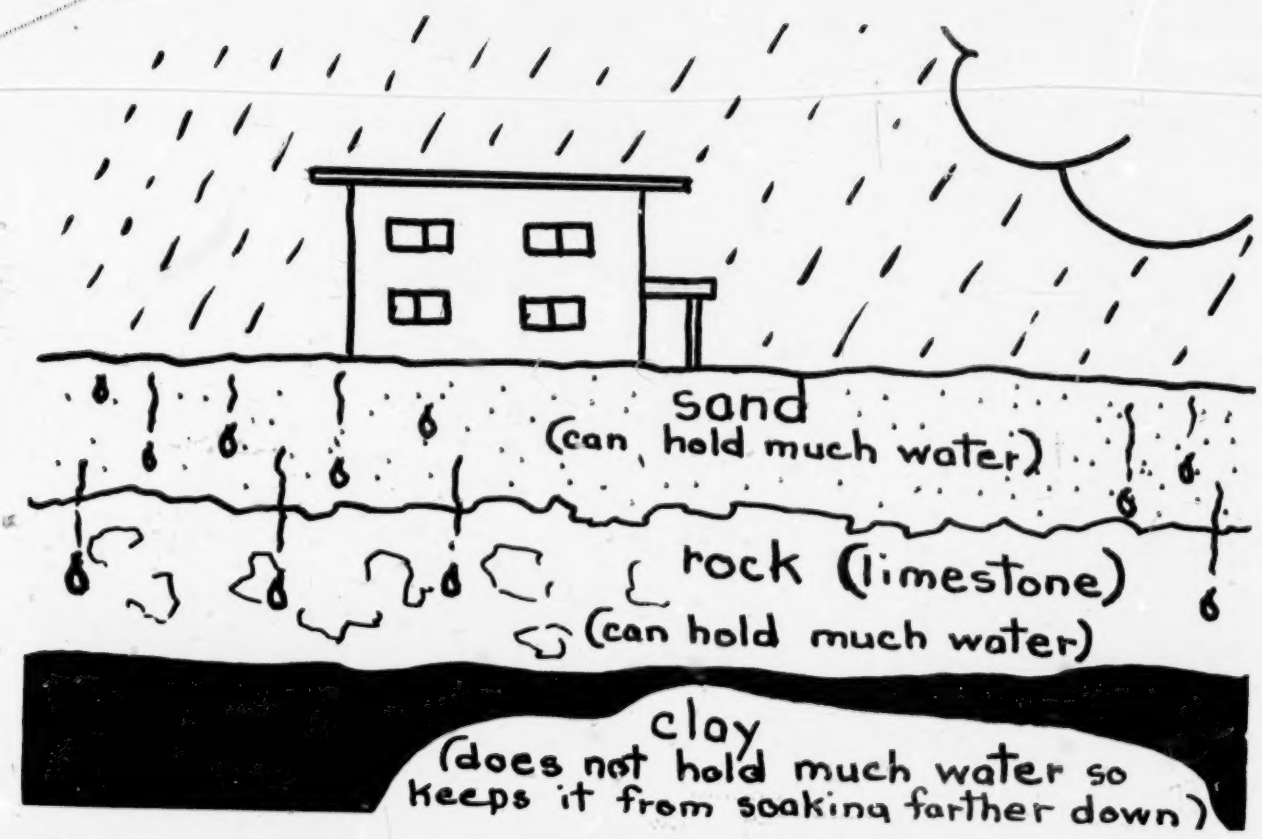
Andy and his brothers play ball in the hot Florida sun.

"Boy! Am I thirsty!"
he says.



The water is cool and good.
Andy asks his mother where it comes from.
"Do people catch the rain?"

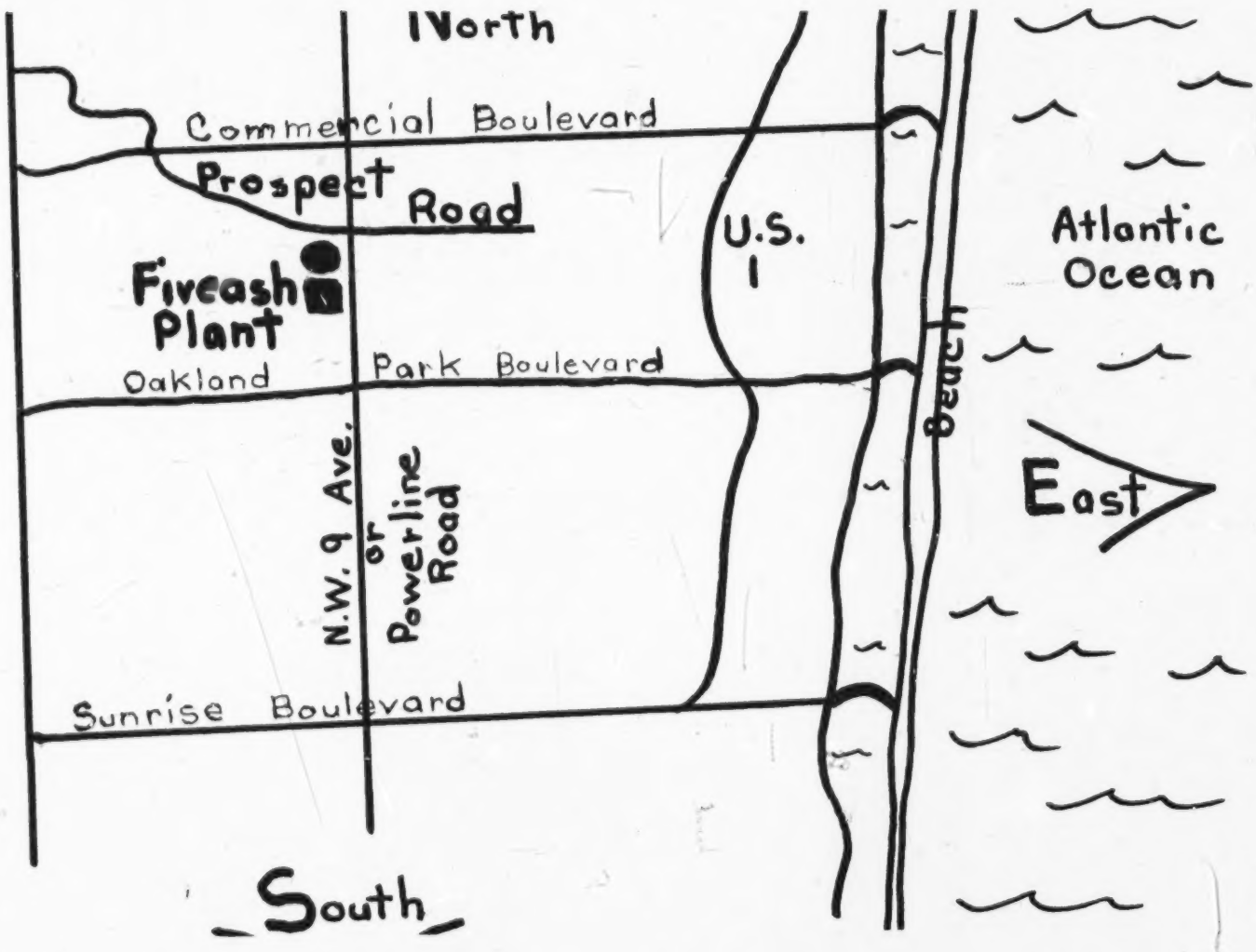

sand
(can hold much water)
rock (limestone)
(can hold much water)
clay
(does not hold much water so keeps it from soaking farther down)

"Most of the time we let the ground catch it for us," his mother tells him. "The ground in Broward County is good for holding water."

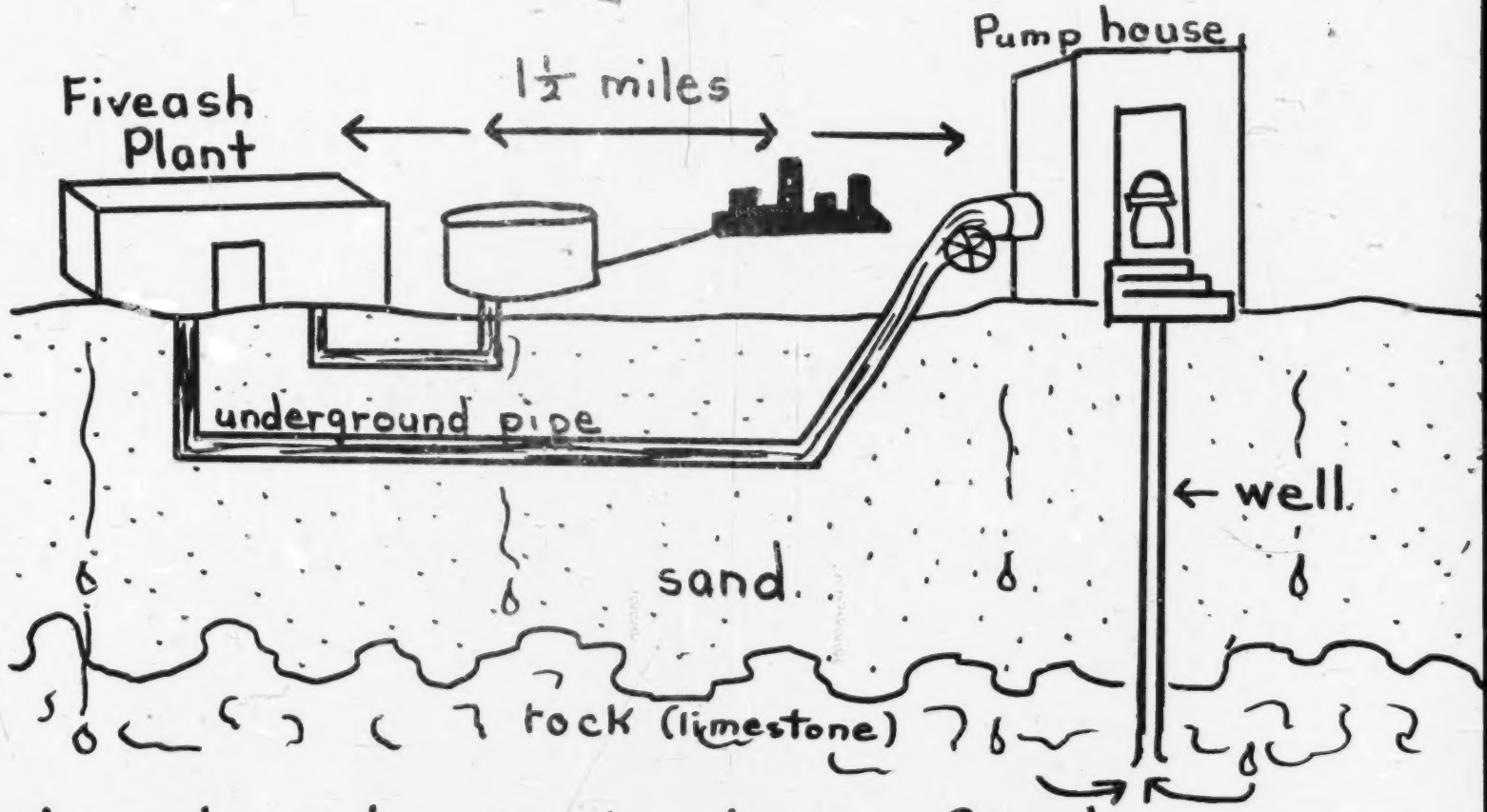
"Pipes are put deep down into the ground. Water is pumped up through the pipes by automatic pumps."

"Ugh! Isn't that pretty dirty?"
Curtis asks.

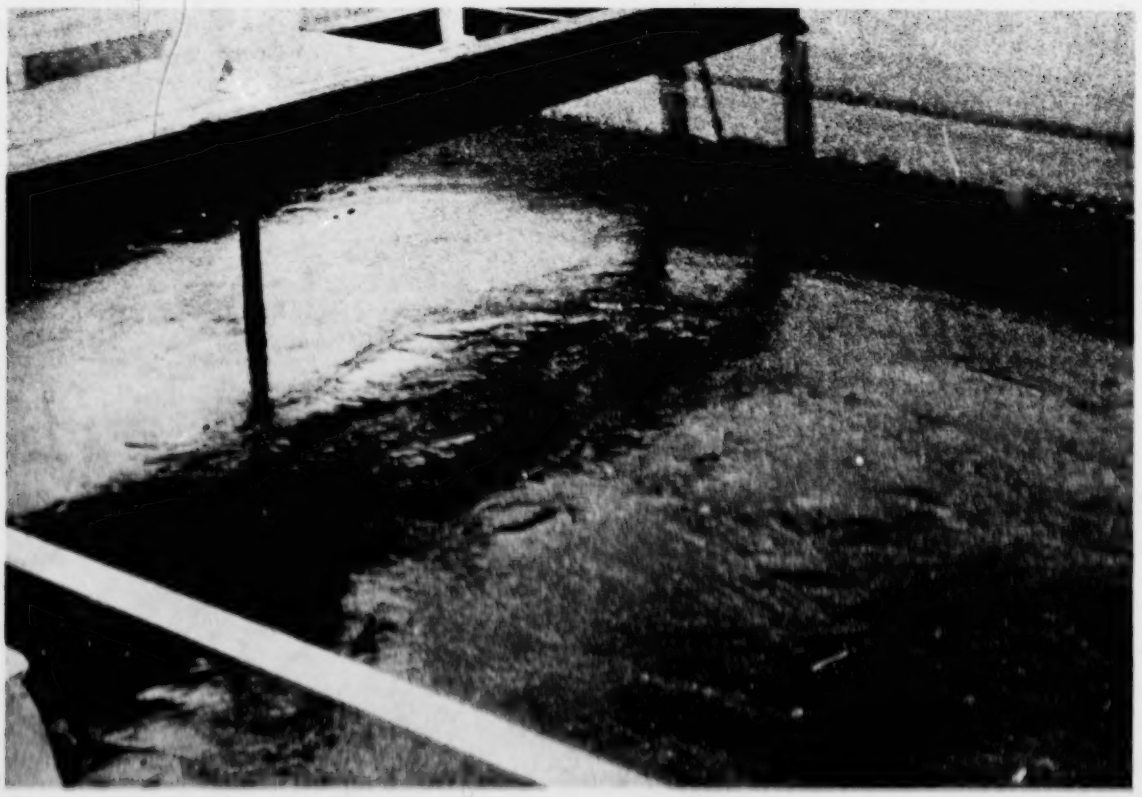
"Sometimes," says Mother. "To make sure our water is clean and pure, we have it cleaned at a treatment plant."
The boys ask to visit the plant.



They visit the Fiveash Water Plant, the biggest water plant in Broward County.

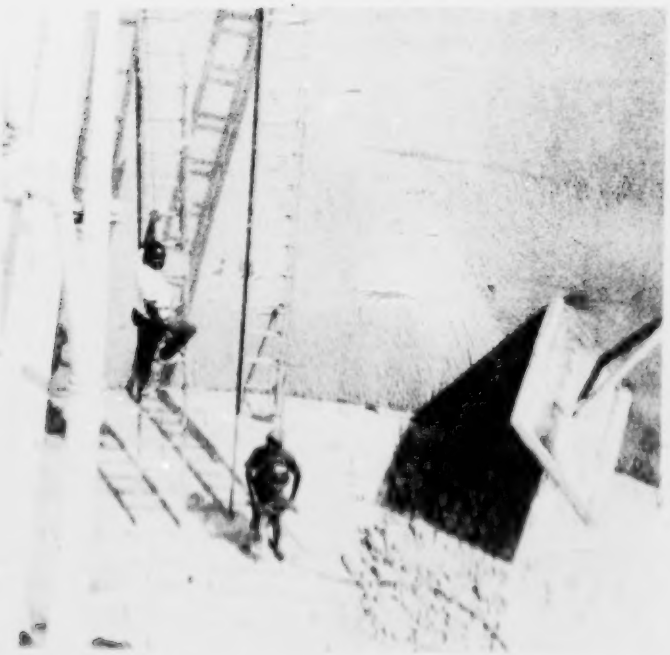


At the plant the boys find out that water comes from wells 1 ½ miles away. It comes to the plant through pipes.



First the water is mixed with air. This takes away the odor and the gas. This is called <u>aerating</u>.

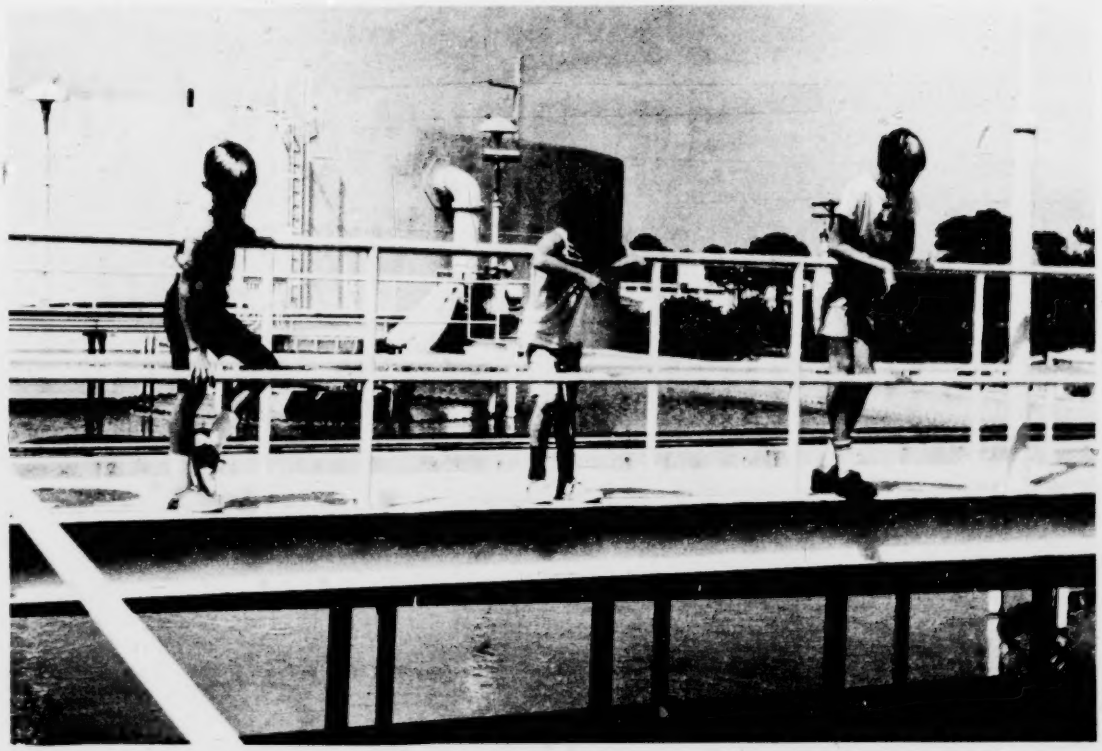
Then the water goes to a big round tank called the hydrotreator. Here lime and chlorine take out dirt and kill germs.



The water leaves a hard crust on the bottom of the tank. It is chipped out about once a year.

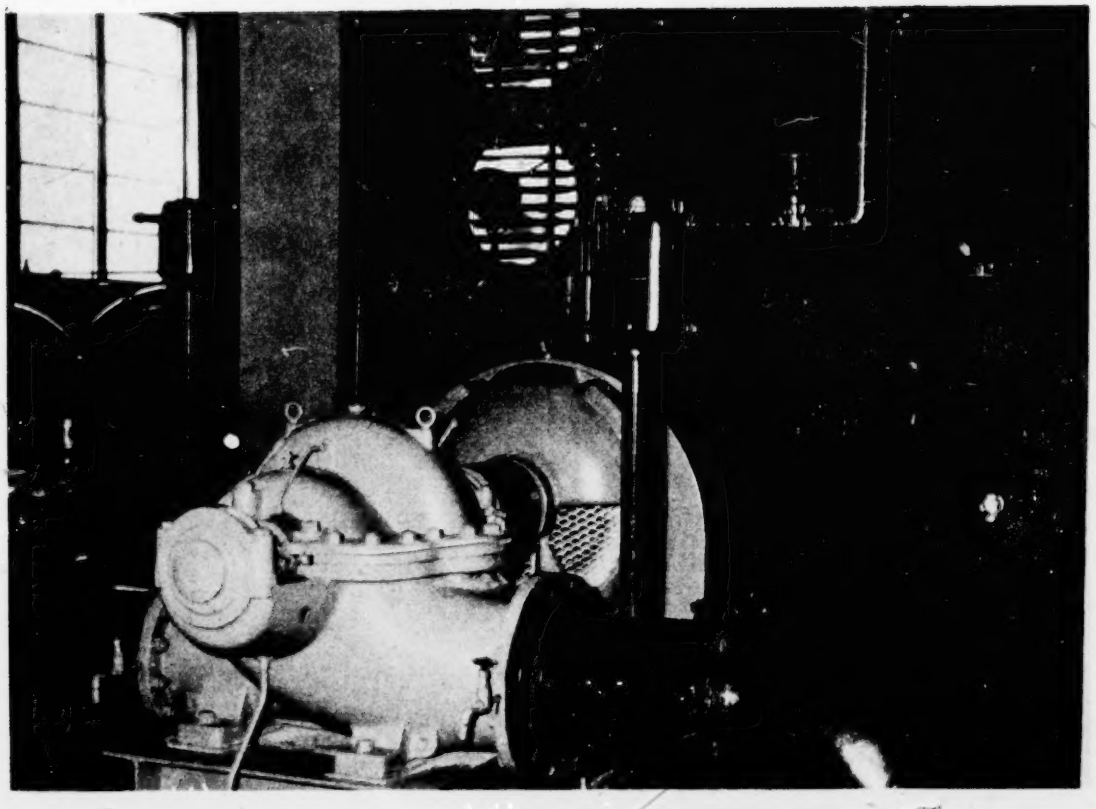
The boys look at the railroad car that brings the lime to the plant. ½ railroad car of lime is used each day. Lime is made of white rock ground up.

The water goes from the hydrotreator to these filter pools. It flows through sand and gravel where the rest of the dirt is caught.



The water is put into big round tanks. More chlorine is added to make sure the water is safe to drink.

This big tank holds 5 million gallons of water – more than you will use in your whole life.



These big pumps pump the water from the big tanks to all parts of the city.

It is pumped to factories, restaurants, schools, and to many of our homes where we can drink water that we are sure is clean and pure.

Glossary (explanations of difficult words)

Aerating - mixing the water with air to take away the odor and gas.

Hydrotreator - a big round tank where lime and chlorine are mixed with the water to take out dirt and kill germs. "Hydro" means water.

Lime - substance made from ground up rock (limestone).

Chlorine - a chemical that kills germs.

This booklet may be used in conjunction with other I.E.E. materials to develop a more thorough set of environmental concepts dealing with water. (See Teacher's Guide To Water)

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I have reviewed this package for content in terms of curriculum and appropriateness.

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